

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-11 CIAE-00 COME-00 EA-10
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P 152042Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8695

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 09069

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1
TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, FR, US, UR
SUBJ: US STRETCH FORM PRESS TO USSR - IL 1081 (CYRIL
BATH CASE)

REFS: A) COCOM DOC. (78) 108, B) PARIS 8430, C) STATE
64072.

1. CHAIRMAN OPENED THE MARCH 14 "PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION"
ON THIS CASE BY ASKING FOR COMMENTS FROM THE OTHER DELE-
GATIONS. BRITISH DEL INDICATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES
HAD NOT COMPLETED THEIR STUDY OF THE CASE BUT NOTED
THAT AMONG THE QUESTIONS THAT HE WOULD LATER BE INSTRU-
CTED TO RAISE WOULD BE A REQUEST FOR DETAILED INFORMATION
ON THE SOVIET END-USER AND END-USE OF THE U.S. STRETCH
PRESS. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS ASKING THIS QUESTION OFF
THE RECORD NOW SINCE HE DID NOT WISH THIS TO LIMIT THE
KIND OF QUESTIONS HE COULD ASK OFFICIALLY AT A LATER
DATE.

2. GERMAN DEL NOTED THAT HE WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS
BUT STATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD ALSO REQUIRE AD-
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DITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE END-USER. HE ALSO STATED
THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE SPECIFIC INFORMATION
ON THE "OTHER COCOM SOURCES" NOTING THAT THE U.S. INDI-
CATED THAT IT WOULD SUSPEND ITS CASE IF ITS INFORMATION
IN THIS REGARD PROVED TO BE ERRONEOUS. THE GERMAN DEL
STATED THAT IF THE INFORMATION ON THE OTHER SOURCES
WAS NOT FORTHCOMING, THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES MIGHT HAVE

TO INITIATE AN INVESTIGATION TO SEE IF ANY WEST GERMAN FIRMS WERE MAKING UNAUTHORIZED SHIPMENTS. FROM BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS HE ALREADY KNEW THAT FRANCE WAS THE OTHER SOURCE AND USDEL PRESUMES THIS STATEMENT WAS MADE TO BRING ISSUE OF SOURCE INTO THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION.)

3. THE DUTCH DEL WHO WAS ALSO WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS INDICATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD FIND IT USEFUL TO HAVE INFORMATION ON THE END-USER AS WELL AS THE OTHER COCOM SOURCES. STRESSING THE NEED TO HAVE THE EMBARGO APPLIED IMPARTIALLY, THE DUTCH DEL STATED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE COMMITTEE TO KNOW THE VIEWS OF THE OTHER COCOM GOVERNMENT INVOLVED CONCERNING THE EMBARGO STATUS OF THE EQUIPMENT BEING EXPORTED AND DETAILS REGARDING THEIR CHARACTERISTICS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

4. REFERRING TO THE GERMAN AND DUTCH QUESTIONS REGARDING THE "OTHER COCOM SOURCES", USDEL RESPONDED THAT IT HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STATE, IF ASKED, THAT THE OTHER COCOM SOURCE IS A FRENCH FIRM.

5. THE FRENCH DEL IMMEDIATELY EXPLAINED THAT THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES WHICH HAD NOT YET COMPLETED THEIR STUDY OF THE U.S. CASE HAD ALREADY NOTED THAT THE U.S. STRETCH PRESS WAS NOTABLY DIFFERENT FROM THE PRESSES THAT WERE BEING PROPOSED FOR EXPORT FROM FRANCE TO THE USSR.(IN CONFIDENTIAL

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RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING BY THE CHAIRMAN THE FRENCH DEL STATED THAT FRENCH PRESSES IN QUESTION HAD NOT YET BEEN EXPORTED TO THE USSR.) HE ADDED THAT THE FRENCH PRESSES DO NOT HAVE SEVERAL OF THE DEVICES WHICH ARE INVOLVED IN THE U.S. PRESS AND WHICH MAKE THE LATTER PRESS SUITABLE FOR THE AERONAUTIC INDUSTRY. ONCE HIS AUTHORITIES HAVE COMPLETED THEIR STUDY OF THE U.S. PRESS, HE SAID, THEY WILL BE PROVIDING DETAILS ON HOW THIS PRESS DIFFERS FROM THE FRENCH PRESSES.

6. FRENCH DEL WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WAS SURPRISED AT THE METHOD BEING EMPLOYED BY THE U.S. IN THIS CASE SINCE THERE IS NO BREACH OF THE EMBARGO CONTROL INVOLVED BUT A DIFFERENCE OF INTERPRETATION OF THE STATUS OF A GIVEN MACHINE. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE THE MATTER WAS TO PROPOSE A REDEFINITION TO PUT AN END TO THE UNCERTAINTY.

7. FRENCH DEL NOTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY A FRENCH FIRM WITH A REQUEST TO EXPORT TO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 09069

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THE SOVIET UNION A PRESS WITH CHARACTERISTICS APPARENTLY SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE MACHINE IN THE U.S. CASE. THE FRENCH FIRM, HE SAID, WAS TOLD THAT IT COULD NOT BE EXPORTED SINCE IT IS COVERED BY IL 1081.

8. WHEN THE GERMAN DEL ASKED WHAT PART OF IL 1081 NEEDED REVISION, THE FRENCH DEL NOTED THAT HE COULDN'T REPLY AND ADDED THAT IT WAS UP TO THE U.S. AUTHORITIES TO PROPOSE A CHANGE IF THEY FEEL THERE IS A PROBLEM.

9. USDEL WELCOMED THE FRENCH DEL'S REMARK THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD BE PROVIDING DETAILS ON THE FRENCH PRESSES AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THESE WOULD INCLUDE SPECIFICATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS SO THAT THE COMMITTEE COULD MAKE A COMPARISON WITH THE U.S. PRESSES. USDEL ALSO REITERATED THE HOPE THAT DURING THE DISCUSSION OF THIS CASE SOME CLARIFICATION OF THE INTERPRETATIONAL QUESTION WOULD OCCUR, THAT THE OTHER DELEGATIONS WOULD BE SOLICITING THE VIEWS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS REGARDING LIST INTERPRETATIONS.

10. UKDEL REMINDED COMMITTEE THAT IN COCOM DOC. (77) 1091/1081 DATED APRIL 22, 1977 HIS AUTHORITIES HAD RECOMMENDED TO DELETE IL 1081. (RATIONALE GIVEN BY UK IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT DOCUMENT IS THAT U.S. PROPOSAL TO CREATE 1500 NI
WOULD MEAN THAT RESULTING NEW FORMAT FOR IL 1091 WOULD
IN EFFECT SUBSUME IL 1081.)

11. USDEL COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE FRENCH DEL STATED
THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD REFUSED THE EXPORT OF A
MACHINE WITH THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EQUIPMENT IN
THE U.S. CASE (PARA 7 ABOVE) IT COULD BE THAT WHAT HE
WAS REFERRING TO WAS THE HONEYCOMB PRESS WHICH HE
MENTIONED IN HIS FEBRUARY 23 LETTER TO USDEL (REF B)
AND WHICH WOULD APPEAR FROM REF C. TO BE A VERY
DIFFERENT TYPE OF EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, SINCE IT WAS NOT
CLEAR WHAT HE WAS REFERRING TO, USDEL PREFERRED NOT TO
MAKE USE OF INFORMATION IN REF C IN RESPONSE DURING
MARCH 14 MEETING. ONCE THE FRENCH BEGIN TO PROVIDE
INFORMATION EXPLAINING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE U.S.
AND THE FRENCH PRESS, THIS ISSUE MAY BE CLARIFIED SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT USDEL RESPONSE.

12. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO
GERMAN AND DUTCH QUESTIONS REGARDING SPECIFIC END-USER/
END-USE INFORMATION. EVEN IF U.S. AUTHORITIES HAVE NO
DEFINITE INFORMATION ON THIS, U.S. DEL SUGGESTS THAT WE
MIGHT WANT TO INDICATE WHO WE BELIEVE IS MOST LIKELY TO
BE THE FINAL END-USER.
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